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Claims

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1. A method of operating a file server, said method including steps for  
identifying a first file on said file server with a first security style selected  
from among a plurality of security styles; and  
enforcing said first security style for all accesses to said first file.

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2. A method as in claim 1, wherein said plurality of security styles in-  
cludes a Windows NT security style.

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3. A method as in claim 1, wherein said plurality of security styles in-  
cludes a Unix security style.

4. A method as in claim 1, including steps for  
associating said first file with a subset of files in a file system; and  
limiting said subset of files to a security subset of said plurality of security  
styles;

wherein attempts to set permissions in said file system tree are restricted to  
said security subset.

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2       6. A method as in claim 4, wherein said security subset includes a Unix  
3 security style.

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5       7. A method as in claim 1, including steps for identifying said first file  
6 with a second security style in response to a file server request.

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8       8. A method as in claim 7, including steps for associating said second  
9 security style with a file server request for setting permissions for said first file when said  
10 file server request is successful.

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12       9. A method as in claim 7, wherein said steps for identifying include  
13 steps for translating a first set of permissions associated with said first file in said first se-  
14 curity style to a second set of permissions in said second security style, wherein said sec-  
15 ond set of permissions is no less restrictive than said first set of permissions.

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17       10. A method as in claim 1, wherein said steps for enforcing include  
18 steps for  
19           recognizing a first set of permissions associated with said first file in said  
20 first security style;  
21           defining a first user type associated with said first security style;

1                   translating a user from a second user type associated with a second security  
2                   style into said first user type; and  
3                   enforcing a file server request from said second user type using said first  
4                   user type and said first set of permissions.

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6                 11. A method as in claim 10, wherein said steps for translating are per-  
7                 formed with regard to access control limits applicable to said first file at a time of said  
8                 steps for enforcing.

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10               12. A method as in claim 10, wherein said steps for translating are per-  
11               formed with regard to access control limits applicable to said first file at a time said ac-  
12               cess control limits are set.

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14               13. A method as in claim 1, wherein said steps for enforcing include  
15               steps for  
16               translating a first set of permissions associated with said first file in said  
17               first security style to a second set of permissions in a second security style, wherein said  
18               second set of permissions is no less restrictive than said first set of permissions; and  
19               enforcing a file server request in said second security style using said sec-  
20               ond set of permissions.

1           14. A method as in claim 13, wherein said steps for translating are per-  
2 formed with regard to access control limits applicable to said first file at a time of said  
3 steps for enforcing.

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5           15. A method as in claim 13, wherein said steps for translating are per-  
6 formed with regard to access control limits applicable to said first file at a time said ac-  
7 cess control limits are set.

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9           16. A file server including  
10           a set of files available said file server, each said file having an associated  
11           security style selected from among a plurality of security styles available on said file  
12           server;  
13           wherein said file server enforces said associated security style for all ac-  
14           cesses to said file.

15           17. A file server as in claim 16, wherein said plurality of security styles  
16           includes a Windows NT security style.

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18           18. A file server as in claim 16, wherein said plurality of security styles  
19           includes a Unix security style.

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21           22. A file server as in claim 16, including

1           a subtree of files in said file system associated with a security subset of said  
2       plurality of security styles;  
3           wherein said file server restricts attempts to set permissions in said subtree  
4       to said security subset.

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6           20. A file server as in claim 19, wherein said security subset includes a  
7       Windows NT security style.

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9           21. A file server as in claim 19, wherein said security subset includes a  
10      Unix security style.

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12          22. A file server as in claim 16, wherein said file server is capable of al-  
13      tering the security style associated with said file in response to a file server request.

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15          23. A file server as in claim 22, wherein said file server is capable of al-  
16      tering the security style associated with said file in response to a file server request when  
17      said file server request is successful.

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19          24. A file server as in claim 22, wherein said file server is capable of  
20      translating a first set of permissions associated with said file in a first security style to a  
21      second set of permissions in a second security style, wherein said second set of permis-  
22      sions is no less restrictive than said first set of permissions.

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2        25. In a file server having a plurality of files, a data structure associating  
3        a security style with each said file, said security style being selected from among a plu-  
4        rality of security styles available on said file server.

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6        26. A data structure as in claim 25, wherein said plurality of security  
7        styles includes a Windows NT security style.

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9        27. A data structure as in claim 25, wherein said plurality of security  
10      styles includes a Unix security style.

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12      28. In a file server having a plurality of files and a security style associ-  
13      ated with each said file, said security style being selected from among a plurality of secu-  
14      rity styles available on said file server, a data structure associating a security subset of  
15      said plurality of security styles with a subtree of said files available on said file server.

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17      29. A data structure as in claim 28, wherein said security subset includes  
18      a Windows NT security style.

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20      30. A data structure as in claim 28, wherein said security subset includes  
21      a Unix security style.

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